

Message Text

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43

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FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3817

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: TGEN, IR

SUBJ: S&T POLICY IN IRAN

1. RECENT SPEECH BY PLAN AND BUDGET ORGANIZATION CHIEF ABDOL MAJID MAJIDI CARRIED IN OCT 8 TEHRAN JOURNAL OUTLINED HIS THOUGHTS ON IRANIAN NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY, WHICH HE CONSIDERS CRITICAL FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF A SELF-SUSTAINED, VIABLE ECONOMY FEATURING NON-OIL, NON-TRADITIONAL EXPORTS. FOLLOWING IS PARAPHRASED: HE SEES FORMULATION OF NATIONAL POLICY FOR S&T AS DEPENDENT UPON(1) NATIONAL PRIORITIES AND NEEDS,(2) NATIONAL ENDOWMENTS IN LAND, LABOR, AND CAPITAL,(3) HUMAN RESOURCE DYNAMICS, AND (4) INTER-SECTORAL BALANCES. HE BELIEVES IRAN IS IN A UNIQUE POSITION TO DEVELOP ITS OWN TECHNOLOGIES AND SPECIFIED(1) MAS EDUCATION,(2) ENERGY FROM PETROLEUM, GAS, AND THE ATOM.(3) PETROCHEMICALS AND PHARMACEUTICALS, AND(4) USE OF WATER AND DESALINATION OF WATER.

2. COMMENT: THIS APPEARS TO BE MOST RECENT AND AUTHORITATIVE STATEMENT OF IRANIAN S&T GOALS, BUT IT IS DOUBTED THAT IT HAS BEEN COORDINATED THROUGHOUT THE GOI.

HELMS

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